

## THE TRUE NORTHERNER.

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We take the following extract from the exceedingly able and comprehensive speech of Hon. J. C. Burrows, made in support of the new tariff bill, as prepared by the Ways and Means Committee, of which he is a prominent member:

Democrat, revenue reformer, free-trader, and Republican, all alike believe in imposing duties on imports as a means of defraying governmental expenses.

Nor would there be any serious controversy over the rate of taxation to be imposed if we could agree upon what articles the assessment should be made, for all admit that it should be sufficient to produce the requisite sum to meet the ordinary expenses of the government, and if there was no other issue than the question of rates, the differences between the two parties could be readily adjusted.

The real controversy, primarily, is over the class of imported articles on which duties should be imposed—what articles should come in free and what should be dutiable; and, secondly, the rate of duty the taxed article should bear. These are the only questions at issue, and their determination involves the conflicting theories of the two parties as to whether duties should be levied for revenue only, or for the double purpose of revenue and protection. It is possible to frame two schedules of duties which would produce an equal amount of revenue; yet one would protect American industries and the other utterly destroy them.

The Democratic party declares in favor of a tariff for revenue only, while the Republican party is equally pronounced in favor of a tariff for revenue and protection—not incidental nor accidental, but intentional protection. These are the two irreconcilable theories confronting us, by one or the other of which the tariff problem is to be solved. Here we come, as declared in the views of the minority, "to the parting of the ways."

And now, what does the Democratic party mean by a tariff for "revenue only"? Do you mean that in levying duties you are actuated only by the necessities of the government, and that if no revenues were needed for the support of the government you would impose no duty on imports, give the world free access to our markets, and at once open the flood-gates of foreign importation and expose our industrial system to swift and certain destruction? Do you mean that? If not, are we to understand by a tariff for "revenue only" that you would impose and collect duties exclusively on the things we do not produce in this country, such as tea, coffee and the like, and thereby avoid not only the fact, but even the semblance of protection or encouragement to any domestic industry?

Is that what you mean? If not that, do you mean by a tariff for "revenue only" that in imposing a tax on imports your chief and only concern shall be the necessities of the government, and so adjust the tax as to secure the most certain and abundant revenue, without regard to the effect such imposition might have on American industries and American labor? Is that what you mean? Or are we to understand by a tariff for "revenue only" that, if protection comes to any domestic industry by reason of a duty on imports, it shall come, not as an end but as an incident?

While it may be difficult to comprehend just what the Democratic party means by a tariff for "revenue only," and while the members of that organization themselves may not be able to arrive at a common understanding as to the exact significance of the term, yet the party, as an organized political power in this country, stands to-day as the avowed antagonist of the doctrine of protection and the acknowledged champion of the principles of free trade.

He who believes in free trade must support the Democratic party; and he who believes in protection must sustain the Republican party, for a tariff for "revenue only," however disguised, is a step toward free trade, and because it is a step in that direction the Republican party opposes it.

The Republican party does not believe in a tariff for "revenue only." We do not believe in imposing a duty on articles of foreign production, the like of which are not and can not profitably be produced in this country, but all such products we would admit free of duty, that the purchaser may secure them as cheaply as possible in the markets of the world. Upon this principle we have materially enlarged the free list in our bill, and if we have failed to place on the free list a single article of foreign production which is not and can not be produced at home, it is an error which the majority of the committee will be prompt to rectify.

If there is any article on the free list in this bill, the like of which, by fair and adequate protection, could be produced in this country in sufficient quantities to meet the home demand, it is an oversight on the part of the majority of the committee, and, if it can be pointed out, we will move that it be transferred to the dutiable list and given such protection as will insure its production in this country.

If there is a single article on the dutiable list, where the duty is so low as to expose the like domestic industry to a ruinous foreign competition and thus endanger its permanency, it has but to be indicated to secure such measure of protection as will insure its safety.

If the proposed rate of duty on any articles on the dutiable list is in excess of what is required to give fair and adequate protection to the competing domestic industry, none will be more ready than the majority of your committee to reduce the rate to the level of such requirement.

Upon this theory the bill is constructed, and we present it to the House and the country, not with the assurance that it is perfect in all its details, but with confidence that its general framework is in harmony with the spirit and policy of the Republican party. It is intended to be a measure of protection from its enacting clause to its closing paragraph. If there is a single provision in it which in its practical working will hurt to the benefit of any foreign industry to the detriment of our own I say frankly that such provision is a step in the direction of not only intention. If there is a section in this

bill which will bring disaster to any American industry or paralyze the arm of a single laboring man in the United States, such section is there by accident and not by design.

Washington Letter.

WASHINGTON, D. C., June 27, 1890. This has been an important week in the House, and one long to be remembered. After an unusually exciting time over the Senate free coinage amendment to the silver bill the House by a vote of 135 to 151 refused its concurrence to that amendment, and asked for a conference on the bill. Had the Democrats voted solidly in favor of free coinage, as they did last week, the amendment would have been accepted; but, in addition to a number who absented themselves when the vote was taken, there was a respectable number that voted against the amendment, more than enough to off set the Republicans who voted for them.

As soon as the silver bill was out of the way the House took up the Federal Election bill, and the exciting fight over that measure is now in full swing. The present programme is to debate the bill until next Wednesday when a vote will be taken. The bill will pass the House, unless something now unforeseen shall occur to change the sentiments of a large number of Republicans; but those best posted on legislative probabilities say that it will not pass the Senate at this session, even if it is taken up by that body which is extremely doubtful.

The President threw a little bombshell in the House this week by telling several Republican members that if the House accepted the Senate amendments adding more than \$4,000,000 to the River and Harbor bill, which carried nearly \$21,000,000 as passed by the House, he would feel compelled to veto the bill. Quite a number of people believe that he intends to veto the bill anyway.

Mr. Blaine's idea of an amendment to the McKinley tariff bill providing for reciprocity with the South and Central American countries continues to be an absorbing topic of conversation, in spite of the important happenings of the week. It is strongly favored by the President, and is gaining ground very rapidly in Congress and unless all surface indications are at fault, the Senate will certainly adopt it, and it will have an excellent chance of passing the House also. The more it is discussed the more friends it makes; it promises to afford relief not only to the overtaxed manufacturer but also the great agricultural interests of the country, by enlarging the market for our products. It is by no means a new idea with Mr. Blaine; it is only the legitimate outcome of the plans he began when Secretary of State under the late President Garfield, and which would have been carried out under that administration had not the assassin Gaiter shot Gen. Garfield.

Senator Manderson has made a strong report to the Senate, which bears out the statement several times reiterated in this correspondence as to the horrible condition of the old rat trap used for the Government Printing office, the largest establishment of its kind in the world. Senator Manderson says, the only remedy is the construction for the use of this office of a fire proof building. Ground may at this time easily be obtained in the immediate vicinity of the present office; but unless Congress shall act promptly in securing it private enterprise will set ahead of it by purchasing the ground for other purposes.

The long investigation by a Senate Committee of the dressed meat traffic, which took place last year, has borne fruit, and the Senate Committee on Agriculture has favorably reported a bill to provide for the inspection of all live stock about to be slaughtered intended for human consumption in any state or territory other than where slaughtered, or for exportation. The House bill authorizing oaths to pension papers to be administered by any official authorized to administer oaths for general purposes, has been favorably reported to the Senate.

Senator Ingalls hit the nail square on the head, as he usually does, when he said that Senator Call of Florida has not only grossly violated and abused the privileges of the Senate; but had deliberately falsified the Record in filling fourteen pages of that publication with a personal statement defending himself from an attack made upon him by a citizen of Florida. It cannot be too often stated that the Congressional Record should contain only what actually takes place in Congress.

The President will to-morrow pay his first visit to the new cottage at Cape May where his family are quartered for the season. He will return to Washington Tuesday.

Wonders of the Dead Sea.

One of the most interesting lakes on inland seas in the world is the Dead sea, which has no visible outlet. It is not mere fancy that has clothed the dead sea in gloom. The desolate shores, with scarcely a green thing in sight, and scattered over with black stones and ragged driftwood, form a fitting frame for the dark, sluggish waters, covered with a perpetual mist, and breaking in slow, heavy, sepulchral toned waves upon the beach. It seems as if the smoke of the wicked cities was yet ascending up to heaven, and as if the moan of their fearful sorrow would never leave that God smitten valley.

It is a strange thing to see those waves, not dancing along and sparkling in the sun as other waves do, but moving with measured melancholy, and sending to the ear, as they break languidly upon the rock, only doleful sounds. This is, no doubt, owing to the great heaviness of the water, a fact well known, and which we amply verified in the usual way, for, on attempting to swim, we went floating about like empty casks. This experiment was more satisfactory in its progress than in its results, which were a very unctuous skin and a most pestiferous stinging of every nerve, as if had been beaten with nettles. Nor was the water we took into our mouth a whit less vile than the most nauseous drugs of the apothecary.

That fish cannot live in this strong solution of bitumen and salt is too obvious to need proof; but to say that birds cannot fly over it and live is one of the exaggerations of travelers, who perhaps were not, like ourselves, so fortunate as to see a flock of ducks reposing on the water in apparently good health. And yet this was all the life we did see. The whole valley was one seething caldron, under a more than tropical sun. God forsaken and man forsaken, no green thing grows within it, and it remains to this day as striking a monument of God's fearful judgments as when the fire from heaven devoured the once mighty cities of the plain. —Missionary Herald.

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